that nature and character of service is not changed by misusing the facilities provided by technology.

Complaints of misuse of FWP Telephones

929. SHRIMATI KAMALA MANHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of subscribers of Fixed Wireless Phones (FWPs) as on 31st December, 2004 and the number of subscribers as on 26th August, 2005 when these phones were brought under the 'Limited Mobile' category;

(b) the number of complaints of misuse of FWP telephones received so far with the nature of complaints;

(c) whether Government have issued a generic directive treating FWP services as Limited Mobile Services without proper technical examination;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether Government would reconsider its directives keeping in view that FWP phones and landline phones are identical, almost have equal weight etc. and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Total number of fixed wireless subscribers as on 31 st December 2004 as reported is 38,94,920. The number of such subscribers as on 31.07.2005 was reported as 59,74,079 while 62,95,382 such subscribers had been reported as on 31.08.2005. Details of subscribers on 26th August 2005 were not maintained.

(b) One complaint each against Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) and twelve complaints against four Private operators were received regarding Fixed Wireless Phones (FWPs) being used as limited mobile phones therby avoiding statutory payments and disturbing level playing field.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

(e) At present no proposal to reconsider the directive is under consideration as mobility is inherent in wireless systems.